

Remarks

The Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully reviewed. The following remarks herein are considered to be responsive thereto. Claims 1-2, 4-10 and 12-20 remain in this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,161,112 issued to Cragun, et al. (Cragun) in further view of US Patent No. 6,601,232 issued to Burba, et al. (Burba).

In regard to claims 1, 9 and 16, the Examiner asserts that Cragun teaches a means for receiving a requested original web page in which a program for customizing a page is embedded. In support of this assertion, the Examiner cites Figure 5, element 129 as the “embedded” program. Claims 1, 9 and 16 set forth respective means (and step) for embedding a customizing program in the requested original web page. The advantage of embedding a customizer program in the web page according to the present invention is that the customizer can be implemented without changing existing web servers or web browsers (i.e., a standard web browser may be implemented, with no requirement of a browser plug-in or separate program logic).

This is distinct from the presentation control mechanism described in Cragun (Figure 5, element 129). In Cragun, the presentation control mechanism is not embedded in the web page but, as described in the passage indited by the Examiner at Col. 4, lines 34-42, the presentation control mechanism is part of the web-browser, is another computer program in a computer system, may be part of the operating system or comprises a plug-in for the web browser. Accordingly, Cragun's presentation control mechanism cannot be realized with an existing web browser. It appears necessary in

Cragun to develop a new web browser in order to realize the customization mechanism available in Cragun.

In further distinction over Cragun, Claims 1, 9 and 16 of the present invention set forth how the customization is separately stored, e.g. locally or via an attached server, without changing the original web page. These claims additionally set forth how the stored customization is dynamically restored when a user accesses the original web page. Moreover, the present invention describes the customizer's structure and technical details. According to the structure described, the customizer of the present invention can be implemented without changing existing web servers, web browsers, and or web pages.

The Examiner further cited the patent to Burba in order to overcome the deficiencies of Cragun, wherein the Examiner states “Cragun et al. fails to disclose means for embedding a customizing program in said requested original web page.”

The Examiner cites Burba for teaching online web page testing procedures having program embedding in the web page, wherein the embedded program allows for a “user to open, create, edit, delete, change and modify the online testing procedure of the web page.” Burba particularly teaches a method of creating and documenting a test procedure. The method provides an interface for creating and modifying a test procedure and creates or modifies the test procedure according to the input gathered from an interface. As shown in Figure 8, a server program called STEP_GEN_HEADER.CGI creates a test procedure according to the input received from a screen such as illustrated in Figure 7.

The method of Burba does not embed a customizing program in a requested web page. The customizing program is executed within a server; therefore the customizing

program is outside of the user requested web page. It must be noted from the server program example of Figure 8, that CGI is a common means for running a program in a web server, and further, that the CGI file as presented is stored in a web server and not in a web page.

The method of Burba as disclosed cannot customize an existing web page. Burba teaches that the method customizes a test procedure written in a specified format and not that of an ordinary web page written in HTML. Rather, the method uses a web page in HTML format for providing an interface for creating and customizing a test procedure.

The presently claimed invention customizes an existing web page by embedding a customizing program in a requested web page, and by letting the customizing program add or delete any HTML objects (e.g., text, image, hyperlink, table, Java applet) in addition to changing the attributes of the HTML objects. The present invention stores the program customizations in a separate customization server. Hence, it can customize an existing web page without changing its original web page that is stored in a web server. Further, the present invention provides for the merger of the program customizations, which are separately stored in a customization server, with the original web page contents whenever a customized page is accessed. The display status of each customized HTML object is controlled, thus allowing for a customization to be displayed to a first user and not a second user.

In contrast, Burba does not embed a customizing program in a requested web page. Further, Burba does not customize an existing web page in HTML format in addition to not teaching the customization of an existing web page. The combination of

Cragun and Burba does not teach all of the elements of the invention as presently claimed.

As cited, Burba does not cure the above-mentioned deficiencies of Cragun. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 9 and 16 are allowable for at least the given reasons. Further, Claims 2 and 4-8, which depend from Claim 1, and Claims 10, 12-15 and 19, which depend from Claim 9 and Claims 17, 18 and 20, which depend from claim 16 are allowable therewith at least because they depend from an allowable base claim. Consequently, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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